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LETTER DATED 9 MAY 1999 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward herewith the statement of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia of 8 May 1999 regarding the criminal attack of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) on the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Belgrade.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Statement issued on 8 May 1999 by the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

The Federal Government has issued the following statement at its session held today.

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was bombed at 11.45 p.m. on 7 May 1999 by the NATO aggressors. In this criminal attack three members of the Embassy's staff were killed while six sustained serious injuries. The building of the diplomatic mission of the People's Republic of China was visibly marked and separated from other buildings in its vicinity, which indicates the clear intentions of the aggressors.

The attack of the NATO aggressors on the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Belgrade represents an unprecedented barbarian crime which caused an irretrievable loss of life among the members of the Embassy's staff - Chinese diplomats and associates - as well as great material destruction in which the building of the Chinese Embassy was demolished. This crime represents not only an attack without precedent on a diplomatic mission of a peaceful country, but also a criminal act which constitutes a most flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, the Geneva Conventions and the entire system of international law and the norms of civilization. This is an absurd attack of a war machine on diplomacy as an instrument for peaceful resolution of all political problems. The aim of this intentional crime is to intimidate and to eliminate in the most brutal way diplomatic missions acting in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and witnessing the crimes committed each day against a sovereign country and its citizens. By their ruthless bombing and destruction of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, by the attack on the residence of the Chinese Ambassador and by killing and seriously wounding Chinese diplomats, the creators of a new world order are settling scores in the most brutal way with all countries opposing their concept of use or threat of force, aggression and the model of a unipolar world. It should be obvious by now to all that the criminal NATO aggression has nothing to do with Kosovo and Metohija and human rights, and that this is not "collateral damage" but that its sole goal is American domination over Europe and the world.

The attack on the diplomatic mission of the People's Republic of China in Belgrade represents also an attack on the principled policy of the People's Republic of China committed to the protection of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which is decisive in its opposition to the NATO aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its efforts to have it immediately and unconditionally stopped. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia highly appreciates this principled policy of the People's Republic of China, convinced that its peaceful efforts to bring an end to the aggression against our country will bear fruit.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects that the Security Council, as well as the entire international community, will most strongly condemn this

cruel act and demand that those who gave orders for this act be appropriately punished. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects the Security Council to demand an immediate end to the aggression as the only way to eliminate these crimes.